

SIMS JUNIOR HIGH

200 Sims Drive
Union, SC 29379

GRADES 7-8 Middle School

ENROLLMENT 590 Students

PRINCIPAL Cynthia James

864-429-1755

SUPERINTENDENT Dr. Thomas White

864-429-1740

BOARD CHAIR Mrs. Jane Hammett

864-427-7081

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

BELOW AVERAGE

Absolute Ratings of Middle Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent

Good

Average

Below Average

Unsatisfactory

0

8

30

10

0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

UNSATISFACTORY

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

NO

This school met 9 out of 21 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

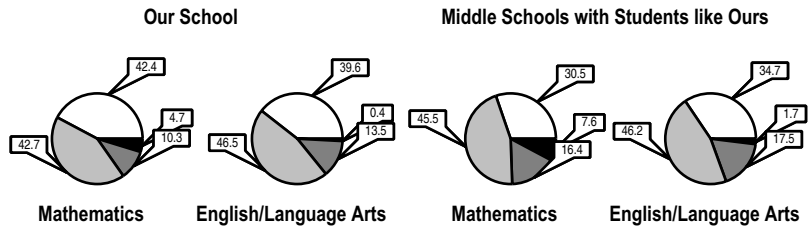
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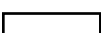
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PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Below Average	Average	N/A
2002	Below Average	Average	N/A
2003	Below Average	Unsatisfactory	No
2004			

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS**Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students	Parents
Number of surveys returned	46	229	47
Percent satisfied with learning environment	67.4%	52.9%	62.2%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	58.7%	54.0%	57.8%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	33.3%	71.1%	50.0%

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced	State Objective
English/Language Arts								
All students	580	94.8	39.6	46.5	13.5	0.4	13.8	17.6
Gender								
Male	282	93.3	47.2	44.4	8.4	N/A	8.4	17.6
Female	297	96.3	32.8	48.1	18.3	0.7	19.0	17.6
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	327	94.5	30.2	47.4	21.6	0.7	22.3	17.6
African-American	246	95.1	52.9	43.9	3.2	N/A	3.2	17.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Hispanic	5	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Disability Status								
Not disabled	471	96.2	36.5	47.2	15.9	0.5	16.3	17.6
Disabled	109	89.0	57.0	43.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Migrant Status								
Migrant	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Non-migrant	580	94.8	39.8	46.3	13.5	0.4	13.9	17.6
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Non-limited English proficient	580	94.8	39.8	46.3	13.5	0.4	13.9	17.6
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	351	93.2	50.8	43.6	5.5	N/A	5.5	17.6
Full-pay meals	228	97.4	23.7	50.2	25.1	0.9	26.1	17.6

Mathematics								
All students	580	97.9	42.4	42.7	10.3	4.7	14.9	15.5
Gender								
Male	282	96.8	42.7	42.3	10.4	4.6	15.0	15.5
Female	297	99.0	41.6	43.4	10.2	4.7	15.0	15.5
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	327	97.2	28.3	48.7	15.0	8.0	23.0	15.5
African-American	246	98.8	61.0	35.1	3.5	0.4	3.9	15.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Hispanic	5	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Disability Status								
Not disabled	471	98.5	36.4	46.0	12.1	5.6	17.6	15.5
Disabled	109	95.4	72.7	26.1	1.1	N/A	1.1	15.5
Migrant Status								
Migrant	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Non-migrant	580	97.9	42.1	42.9	10.3	4.7	15.0	15.5
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Non-limited English proficient	580	97.9	42.1	42.9	10.3	4.7	15.0	15.5
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	351	97.4	54.7	39.1	5.3	0.9	6.3	15.5
Full-pay meals	228	98.7	23.4	48.6	17.8	10.3	28.0	15.5

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample
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PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL

		Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
English/Language Arts								
2002	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	306	N/A	32.0	49.1	17.5	1.4	18.9
	Grade 8	301	N/A	41.7	38.8	16.9	2.5	19.4
2003	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	281	95.7	38.0	46.3	14.9	0.8	15.7
	Grade 8	299	94.0	41.1	46.8	12.1	N/A	12.1

Mathematics								
2002	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	306	N/A	48.0	31.8	11.1	9.1	20.3
	Grade 8	301	N/A	50.0	38.2	8.9	2.9	11.8
2003	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	281	98.2	41.8	39.2	11.8	7.2	19.0
	Grade 8	299	97.7	42.9	46.2	8.8	2.2	11.0

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n= 590)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	18.0%	Up from 13.1%	11.1%	14.4%
Retention rate	N/A	N/A	2.7%	2.3%
Attendance rate	93.5%	Down from 94.2%	94.9%	95.2%
Eligible for gifted and talented	12.4%	Down from 13.2%	12.5%	13.6%
On academic plans	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
On academic probation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With disabilities other than speech	17.3%	Down from 18.2%	14.7%	14.1%
Older than usual for grade	4.2%	Down from 5.2%	4.2%	4.9%
Suspended or expelled	0.0%	Down from 1.4%	1.1%	1.3%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%

Teachers (n= 40)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	60.0%	Up from 58.5%	45.2%	47.1%
Continuing contract teachers	100.0%	Up from 97.6%	81.6%	82.5%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	92.7%	Down from 93.5%	84.0%	84.3%
Teacher attendance rate	92.5%	Down from 94.5%	94.8%	95.0%
Average teacher salary	\$39,356	Down 3.1%	\$38,921	\$39,924
Prof. development days/teacher	10.3 days	Down from 14.3 days	11.0 days	10.7 days

School				
Principal's years at school	0.0	Down from 5.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	20.4 to 1	Up from 19.6 to 1	20.9 to 1	21.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	85.2%	Down from 87.5%	88.6%	88.9%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$4,990	Up 3.8%	\$5,752	\$5,854
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	69.2%	Down from 69.5%	62.0%	62.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	Up from Good	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	99.0%	Up from 96.1%	96.0%	94.8%
SACS accreditation	no	N/A	yes	yes

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data							
N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Sims Jr. High focused on parent involvement during the 2002-2003 school year. The School Improvement Council initiated activities to promote parent involvement. They organized a "Mom Swap" for lunch where students could invite their parents to have lunch with their friends. This allowed students to communicate with their parents and other parents to compare house rules, privileges, and procedures. The PTO shared in the project by covering the price of lunch and helping with advertising. The council also began to set up an industry partnership with local industry to allow workers to mentor students during their lunch hour. More organizational work needs to be done and this will be an area of continued focus in the fall. The policy of mailing home notices of events and/or newsletters was reviewed and overwhelmingly approved for next year. Another project to foster communication and parent involvement was the replacement of our school sign in front of the school. The SIC council along with teacher-led PTO fundraisers purchased the sign from a local contractor. The attractive new sign has been a success receiving a lot of parent attention. An open door policy has been a focus this year as well. Every opportunity to invite parents in to visit classrooms has been taken. The invitation to visit has been a standard part of discipline and academic conferences.

While our report card scores remain constant, our students have continued to improve as a group. Each year more students are meeting standards from the group than the year before. However, state standards continue to rise and improvement is required just to maintain our present status. We are working to meet state expectations for grade level performance, attempting to challenge students without totally frustrating them. Students attending our after-school homework center have experienced direct instruction in Language Arts and Math along with tutorial assistance. This is an attempt to fill in skill gaps from previous levels to help students succeed in their grade level class work. Transportation has been provided to help make the program more accessible for students and attractive to parents. We have had positive feedback from parents of students who have attended the program. A "breakfast for all" program has been piloted this year with all students receiving breakfast in their homerooms each morning. This helps to ensure that all students are nutritionally ready to learn. Over 400 students have participated in the volunteer program. Teachers believe that students are more alert in the classes and therefore more able to learn.

All teachers attended in-service in Standards in Practice, reading strategies, writing strategies, and had their lessons analyzed by Data Works to give them feedback on how the lessons address state standards. We have made accelerated reader accessible within the classroom and have added incentives for students who have participated in the program. Readers have received prizes for points earned and been

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specified that the statewide target is met for all students and for each subgroup of students: racial/ethnic, economic, disability, limited English proficiency and migrant status.